

INDIANA DISTRICT OFFICE

Release Date: August 29, 2001
Release Number: 06

Contact: Darrell J. Mowery (317) 226-7272 ext. 214

SBA Program not a “drag” for Superstar

Drag Racing superstar Don “The Snake” Prudhomme is used to making history. Prudhomme set numerous records during his 30 seasons behind the wheel. The first driver to win four consecutive Winston series titles, he was also the first funny car driver to break the 250 mph mark; the first to post an elapsed time under 5.20 seconds (5.193); the first driver to win seven of eight national events during a season (1976); and the first driver to win the U.S. Nationals and Winternationals in the same season (1965). Although Prudhomme retired from competition after the 1994 season, his thorough knowledge and understanding of every aspect of drag racing has resulted in his success as a team owner and entrepreneur. With this success has come the need to expand.



Don “The Snake” Prudhomme

Having rented shop space in Indianapolis, Don Prudhomme Racing decided that to facilitate future growth of the team, it should construct its own shop.

Utilizing the U.S. Small Business Administration’s 504 Certified Development Company Loan Program, Don Prudhomme and his wife Lynn, secured funding through Premier Capital Corporation and US Bank to construct a 16,000+ square foot facility located at Eaglepoint Business Park in Brownsburg, Indiana. The new location allows the racing teams to be more centrally

located to various racing venues. Don Prudhomme Racing also projects the venture will create 10 new full-time jobs over the next two years.

The 504 Certified Development Company (CDC) Program provides growing businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing for major fixed assets, such as land and buildings. A Certified Development Company is a nonprofit corporation set up to contribute to the economic development of its community. CDCs work with the SBA and private-sector lenders to provide financing to small businesses.

Typically, a 504 project includes a loan secured with a senior lien from a private-sector lender covering up to 50 percent of the project cost, a loan secured with a junior lien from the CDC (backed by a 100 percent SBA-guaranteed debenture) covering up to 40 percent of the cost, and a contribution of at least 10 percent equity from the small business being helped. The maximum SBA debenture is \$1,000,000.

The SBA salutes the accomplishments of Don Prudhomme Racing and wishes it continued success both on and off the track.

###